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Appointment of medical practitioners trained in the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta.

*1062 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of medical practitioners employed under Government and local bodies who have undergone training in the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, in the treatment of leprosy ;

(b) whether the Government and the local bodies have made any efforts to utilize the services of these trained officers by starting Leprosy Clinics ;

(c) whether the Government have at any time called for proposals to start Leprosy Clinics either in the Government hospitals or the dispensaries and hospitals run by the local bodies ; and

(d) what is the amount provided in the budget for 1929-30 for starting Leprosy Clinics ?

A.—(a) Sixteen under Government and five under local bodies.

(b) Leprosy Clinics have been opened at the Government Headquarter Hospitals at Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntur, Vizagapatam and Krishnagiri and temporarily at Villupuram. Leprosy Clinics have not been opened by local bodies.

(c) It is the aim of the Government to open Leprosy Clinics at all Government medical institutions. They have not asked local bodies to open such clinics.

(d) No amount has been provided.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" With reference to the answer to question (c), may I know why the Government have not asked the local bodies to open any Leprosy Clinics ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The institutions maintained by the local bodies are entirely under their control, and we have no power to ask them to open Leprosy Clinics."

Public Health

Free supply of water to mosques in Chidambaram.

*1063 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation that the Chidambaram Municipal Council has declined to allow the free supply of water to mosques and proposes to charge for the entire water used ; and

(b) what action the Government have taken thereon and with what result ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Orders have been issued permitting the municipal council to allow a free supply of water to the mosque in question in accordance with the by-laws on the subject.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Did the municipal council at any time decline the free supply of water to the mosque ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It did."

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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know why that order was set aside ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" They are entitled to some free supply according to the taxable value."

Sanitary arrangements during the festival at Velanganni.

*1064 Q.—Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the annual contribution made by the Mission at Velanganni for sanitary arrangements made at Velanganni during the festival in September ;

(*b*) what were the actual arrangements made in 1928 at Velanganni by the Government and by the local board concerned (1) for the maintenance of peace and order and (2) for medical relief and sanitation ;

(*c*) what is the information possessed by the Government as to the total number of pilgrims who visited the shrine during the festival in September 1928 ;

(*d*) what is the normal width of the passage between the stalls usually insisted on by the authorities to allow the pilgrims free access to the church ;

(*e*) by whom is the auction of stalls and plots for stalls conducted ; and

(*f*) what are the profits realized by such auctions and by whom, and for what purposes they are utilized ?

A.—(*a*) The Mission pays an annual contribution at fifty per cent of the net expenditure on the sanitary arrangements made during the festival. The Vicar has not yet paid the contribution due for the current year.

(*b*) (1) The Negapatam Taluk Board, and not the Government, is responsible for the arrangements to be made during the festival. The Sub-Magistrate, Negapatam, and a sufficient number of police officials were present at Velanganni during the festival.

(2) The taluk board spent Rs. 2,843 during 1928 for the provision of the following special sanitary arrangements :—

Shelter, conservancy, water-supply, lighting, medical aid, preventive measures against cholera.

(*c*) About fifty thousands.

(*d*) Fifteen feet.

(*e*) The taluk board leases its market site in public auction, while the Vicar leases out the sites belonging to the church ; and

(*f*) The taluk board derived an income of Rs. 272 in 1929 which was utilized for making sanitary arrangements. There is no information available regarding the income to the church and the purpose for which it is utilized.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether, in consideration of the fact that this place is an important pilgrim centre, Government propose to increase the water-supply along with other sanitary arrangements ? "